Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Twice Amended) A foil leak detection chamber comprising two frames connected together in an articulated manner, foils which are mounted on said frames, a test chamber composed of the foils, ~~a seal arranged between the frames,~~ the frames being equipped with a double seal arrangement, and at least one bore hole in at least one of the two frames[[,]] said at least one bore hole adapted to be connected to an inlet of a vacuum pump, wherein an edge zone delimited by said two frames and said double seal arrangement is provided in which a vacuum can be created independently of said test chamber and into which said bore ~~holds~~ hole ~~open~~ opens out.

2. (Previously Amended) The chamber according to claim 1 wherein there are located between said frames two concentric seals, the intermediate space of which forms said edge zone.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The chamber according to claim 1~~, A foil leak detection chamber comprising two frames connected together in an articulated manner, foils which are mounted on said frames, a test chamber composed of the foils, a seal arranged between the frames, and at least one bore hole in at least one of the two frames, said at least one bore hole adapted to be connected to an inlet of a vacuum pump, wherein an edge zone is provided in which a vacuum can be created independently of said test chamber and into which said bore hole opens out, and wherein one of said frames is equipped with an inner circumferential protrusion, where the circumferential rim of said protrusion is in contact with a related foil and is so positioned that the said two foils touch each other when said frames rest on each other.

4. (Previously Amended) The chamber according to claim 3, wherein said protrusion comprises a contoured unitary component joined to one of said frames.

5. (New) A method for using a foil leak detection chamber having first and second frames connected in an articulated manner and foils mounted to each of the frames, said method comprising the steps of:

(A) providing a seal system for said detection chamber, the seal system defining two independently evacuatable areas of said detection chamber, the independently evacuatable areas being (i) a test chamber, and (ii) an edge zone;

(B) placing an article in said test chamber;

(C) moving said first and second frames together;

(D) evacuating said edge zone so that a holding force between said frames is sufficient to eliminate a need to apply an outside holding force to hold said frames together; and

(E) evacuating said test chamber to test for leaks in said article.

6. (New) The method of claim 5, wherein said providing step includes the step of providing first and second concentric seals between said first and second frames.

7. (New) The method of claim 5, wherein said providing step includes the step of providing a circumferential protrusion on one of said first and second frames.